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Message Text

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43
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SAM-01 /064 W
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O R 031526Z JUN 75
FM AMEMBASSY MADRID
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2024
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY VIENNA
US MISSION NATO 602
USEC BRUSSELS
US MISSION GENEVA 684

UNCLAS MADRID 3780

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, SP
SUBJ: TOASTS EXCHANGED BY PRESIDENT FORD AND
PRIME MINISTER ARIAS

REF: MADRID 3779

1. FOLLOWING WORKING LUNCH AT MONCLOA PALACE OFFERED BY PRESIDENT FORD MAY 31, AND ATTENDED BY PRIME MINISTER ARIAS, KEY SPANISH CABINET MINISTERS AND MILITARY AND FOREIGN MINISTRY AIDES, PRESIDENT FORD GAVE FOLLOWING TOAST:

"MR. PRESIDENT, MR. MINISTER, YOUR EXCELLENCIES:
FOR A QUARTER OF A CENTRURY SPAIN AND THE UNITED STATES HAVE ENJOYED THE MOST CORDIAL AND THE MOST PRODUCTIVE TIES, CHARACTERIZED BY OUR COMMON EFFORTS TO
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MEET THE DANGER OF AGRESSION AGAINST THE WESTERN

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COMMUNITY OF NATIONS, AND SUPPORTED BY MUTUAL RESPECT FOR THE ASPIRATIONS OF OUR RESPECTIVE PEOPLE TO SECURE FOR THEMSELVES A BETTER LIFE.

MINDFUL AS WE HAVE BEEN OF EACH OTHER'S CONCERNS AND NEEDS, WE HAVE FORGED, FORTUNATELY, A HARMONIOUS AND A VERY FINE RELATIONSHIP.

WE HAVE MET TODAY TO REAFFIRM OUR COMMITMENT TO BUILD THIS COOPERATION IN A MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL MANNER.

THE WORLD HAS CHANGED, AS WE WELL KNOW, FROM WHEN THE FIRST U.S.- SPANISH FREINDSHIP AGREEMENTS WAS SIGNED IN 1953. BUT THE NEED FOR STRONG DEFENSES HAS NOT LESSENED IN ANY WAY WHATSOEVER. SPAIN AND THE UNITED STATES HAVE, IN THE PAST, CONTRIBUTED TOGETHER TO THE MAINTENANCE OF A STRONG WESTERN SECURITY. THE PRESENT AND FUTURE CALLS FOR NO LESS EFFORT. THE UNITED STATES REMAINS TOTALLY DEDICATED TO THIS TASK.

IT WOULD BE MY OBSERVATION THAT THE COOPERATION BEING CARRIED OUT IN SO MANY FIELDS BETWEEN OUR COUNTRIES DEMONSTRATES THE BREADTH OF OUR INTEREST, THE DEPTH OF FRIENDSHIP AND THE COMMITMENT OF THE UNITED STATES AND SPAIN TO A BETTER LIFE FOR OUR CITIZENS. SPAIN, OF COURSE, IS AN IMPORTANT PART OF OUR ATLANTIC CONCZ589,.

MR. PRESIDENT, I RAISE MY GLASS AND PROPOSE A TOAST TO THIS SPIRITY OF FRIENDSHIP. MAY OUR COOPERATION BE PRESERVED AND STRENGTHENED. MAY IT ASSURE PEACE FOR SPANIARDS AND AMERICANS ALIKE.

MR. PRESIDENT."

2. PRIME MINISTER ARIAS (WHOSE OFFICIAL TITLE IS "PRESIDENT OF GOVERNMENT") RESPONDED WITH THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT:

"MR. PRESIDENT:

IT CONSTITUTES FOR ME A GREAT HONOR TO ATTEND THIS WORKING LUNCH, WHICH YOU HAVE SO KINDLY INVITED ME TO.

DURING THE SHORT SCHEDULE OF YOUR VISIT TO OUR COUNTRY, WE WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITIES TO A BROAD EXCHANGE OF VIEWS, WHICH WILL CONSTITUTE THE BASIS OF AN UNDERSTANDING WITH WHICH TO CEMENT AN OFFICIAL AND POSITIVE COOPERATION OF THE KIND THAT FORTUNATELY SO FAR HAS GUIDED THE RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES.
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SPANISH-AMERICAN RELATIONSHIPS HAVE BLENDED THROUGHOUT HISTORY. FOR SPAIN, IT IS A MOTIVE OF DEEP PRIDE IN HER GLORIOUS PAST TO HAVE SO SUBSTANTIALLY CONTRIBUTED TO THE ORIGINS OF THE GREAT AMERICAN NATION, BOTH DURING ITS DISCOVERY AND ITS INDEPENDENCE.

IN THE PAST, EUROPEAN INHABITANTS OF TERRITORIES WHCIH THEN BECAME THE UNITED STATES WERE OF SPANISH ORIGIN. ALSO, SPANISH WAS THE INITIAL IMPULSE AND

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BACKING RECEIVED BY THE FOREFATHERS OF AMERICA IN THE
HEROIC DAYS OF HER ACCESS TO THE CONCERT OF FREE NATIONS.
THE LAST 25 YEARS OF UNDERSTANDING AAND COOPERATION
BETWEEN SPAIN AND THE UNITED STATES HAS BECOME PARTICULARLY
INTENSE. THIS COOPERATION HAS BEEN, I AM SURE, ONE OF THE
FUNDAMENTAL SUPPORTS FOR THE EXISTENCE OF THE FREE WORLD.
SPAIN BELIEVES THAT THE HOUR HAS COME FOR THIS
DIRECT, LOYAL AND DISINTERESTED CONTRIBUTION ON HER PART
TO BE ACKNOWLEDGED IN SPECIFIC AND PRACTICAL TERMS BY
THE NATIONS THAT FORMED THE WESTERN WORLD, TO WHICH OUR
COUNTRY BELONGS, AS WELL AS FOR ITS GEOGRAPHICAL
POSITION, ITS HISTORY AND ITS CULTURE AND FOR ITS PAST
AND PRESENT CONTRIBUTIONS.
MR. PRESIDENT, THIS IS NOT THE FIRST TIME SPAIN HAS
HAD THE HONOR TO RECEIVE YOU. YOU HAVE COME TO SPAIN
BEFORE, WHEN YOU REPRESENTED YOUR COUNTRY IN THE EVENTS
OF THE TRAGIC DEATH OF MY PREDECESSOR, ADMIRAL CARRERO
BLANCO, A SORROWFUL OCCASSION FOR ALL SPANIARDS, ESPECIALLY
FOR THOSE OF US WHO HAD THE PRIVILEGE OF SHARING THE
RESPONSIBILITIES OF GOVERNMENT UNDER HIS COMMAND.
YOUR VISIT THEN TODAY, WE BELIEVE, IS IN THAT LONG
TRADITION OF COOPERATION I HAVE ALREADY MENTIONED; THAT
IS, WHY THE SPANISH PEOPLE, MY COLLEAGUES IN THE GOVT
AND MYSELF, THINK THAT NOBODY BETTER THAN YOU CAN UNDER-
STAND THE DEPTH AND IMPORTANCE OF EXISTING COOPERATION
BETWEEN OUR COUNTRIES, AS WELL AS THE NEED FOR PRESERVING
SUCH UNDERSTANDING FOR THE FUTURE SAKE OF VALUES THAT
BELONG TO OUR COMMON CIVILIZATION THAT HAVE BEEN SO
EFFICIENTLY DEFENDED SO FAR.
WE CONGRATULATE OURSELVES, MR. PRESIDENT, AND WE
THANK YOU FOR YOUR VISIT TO SPAIN. WE ARE CERTAIN THAT
YOU SHARE WITH US THE DESIRE TO CONTIUE OUR FRIENDSHIP,
ALREADY A TRADITION. YOU CAN BE SURE THAT SPAIN TRUSTS
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YOUR LEADERSHIP IN THE WESTERN WORLD, AND KNOWS THAT OUR
COMMON OBJECTIVES CAN BE REACHED.
NOW, MR. PRESIDENT, I RAISE MY GLASS FOR THE
PRESERVATION OF THAT SPIRITY OF FRIENDSHIP AND UNDER-
STANDING EXISTING BETWEEN SPAIN AND THE UNITED STATES,
FOR THE FRIENDSHIP OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE, AS WELL AS
FOR YOUR SELF."
STABLER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: VISITS, SPEECHES, SOCIAL RECEPTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 JUN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975MADRID03780
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750193-0990
From: MADRID
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750686/aaaadbbf.tel
Line Count: 162
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 MADRID 3779
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: greeneet
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 MAR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <13 MAR 2003 by PhilliR0>; APPROVED <23 JAN 2004 by greeneet>
Review Markings:

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06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TOASTS EXCHANGED BY PRESIDENT FORD AND PRIME MINISTER ARIAS
TAGS: PFOR, SP, (FORD, GERALD R)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006